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A.W.

04606.P002X

Patent

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Nabors, et al. ) Examiner: Choules, J.  
Application No.: 09/374,577 ) Group Art Unit: 2761  
Filed: August 13, 1999 )  
For: Apparatus and Process for Facilitating )  
Customer-driven Sales of Products )  
Having Multiple Configurations)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This response is submitted to an Office Action mailed **May 22, 2002**. In light of the following amendments and subsequent remarks, reconsideration of the above captioned application is respectfully requested.

**In the Claims:**

The currently pending claims should read as follows:

*sub B*  
A1  
48. (Amended) A vehicle description language (VDL) employed by and between communicatively coupled computing systems to communicate information associated with a vehicle in support of application(s) executing thereon, the VDL employing a hierarchical data structure comprising:

(a) a public block of data, having starting and ending delimiters that identify the beginning and end of the block of data, wherein the public block of data comprises:

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